



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

September 23, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES,
AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS

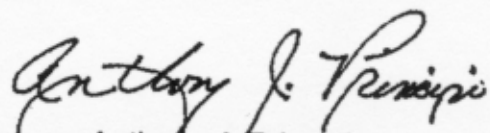
October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) program is celebrating National JWOD Week from October 12-20, 2002. *JWOD Works for America* is this year's theme. In support of JWOD Week, VA Central Office will host a VA-JWOD Vendor Day. Twenty JWOD vendors representing the National Industries for the Severely Handicapped and the National Industries for the Blind will display their supply and service capabilities.

To promote the JWOD program, the Department recently developed an electronic feature -- for the attention of VA acquisition professionals -- that instantly highlights JWOD supplies and services. This new electronic messaging system is called "JWOD means Jobs."

VA also supports JWOD by sharing executive time and talent. The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management, Mr. Gary J. Krump, serves as a member of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. Mr. Krump now chairs its new Governance Subcommittee.

Given our special mission to serve veterans and their families, we fully understand the need to create jobs for individuals who are blind or severely disabled. JWOD's Web site, www.jwod.gov, is a good resource for information about their program. I encourage attendance at the VA-JWOD Vendor Day, being held on October 3 in room C-7 from 8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. This event will be an excellent learning opportunity for Government purchase card users and acquisition personnel.

We look forward to working with JWOD, promoting the purchase of their supplies and services, and supporting *JWOD Works for America*.


Anthony J. Principi